

At Annual Ball

24 Debutantes Curtsy Amid Golden Decor

By Winzola McLendon

THE WASHINGTON Debutante Ball was on the gold standard for its ninth annual presentation of debutantes last night. Glittering gold cloth curtains hung at each end of the Mayflower Hotel's gilt-decorated ballroom, as 24 starry-eyed young ladies made their bows to society.

On the gold curtains were ceiling-to-floor stylized Christmas trees covered with gold ornaments. The tree at the east end of the ballroom parted to form a Christmasy frame for the debutantes as they stepped through to be presented by their fathers.

More gold was glittering at the dinner given in the East Room before the ball for the debutantes, their parents and members of the floor committee. The dinner—which started with Supreme of Fresh Fruit au Kirsch, included Breast of Poulardine with Fresh Mushroom Caps with Sauce Bercy, and ended with Individual Baked Alaskas with Melba Sauce—was served on the Mayflower's gold service.

It's the same service which has been used by royalty and chiefs of state entertaining at the hotel. And, it is the service which was loaned to the Russian

Embassy when Soviet Premier Khrushchev entertained at dinner for President and Mrs. Eisenhower.

Bright red carnations centered the tables for 10 or 12, matching perfectly the bouquets carried by the debutantes.

From the dinner, the white-gowned debutantes crossed the promenade to the Chinese Room where they received several hundred members of Washington society. The mothers took turns receiving with their daughters.

Busy serving on the floor committee were 43 young men—most of them in town on vacation from Eastern universities and colleges. Heading the committee was Jerry McCammon, whose sister, Susan, was one of the deb.

Susan, a student at the Ville Mercede in Florence, Italy, flew home for her debut, bringing with her the Nina Ricci dress she wore last night. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. McCammon III, will give a tea for her on Wednesday at the Chevy Chase Club.

Other brothers on the floor committee included deb Charlotte Kidder's brother, Michael; Jay Brag-

don's sister, Susan, made her bow; Stephen Brown, brother of Abigail; Edward and Larry Hardin, brothers of Diana; Linda Merrill's brother, Ricky, and Henry Spencer, the brother of Janet.

Up from Norfolk with their debutante daughter, Marian, were Adm. and Mrs. Jerauld Wright. Marian will be presented to the Wrights' Norfolk friends at a ball on Dec. 23, in Missouri House on the Norfolk Naval Base. On Friday night, Mrs. George Angus Garrett gave a ball at Anderson House for the Wrights' daughter who is her god-child.

Mrs. Wright says that there is nothing to the rumor that the Admiral will serve as Ambassador to NATO after he retires on Feb. 29. The Admiral, she said, hasn't yet decided what he is going to do. The Wrights could very well stay in Washington as they still have their house on 36th st.

STEPPING THROUGH the stylized Christmas tree to make their bows were Jae McKown Barlow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barlow; Susan Bragdon, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Bragdon; Belinda Lawrence Breese, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Breese; Abigail Adams Brown, daughter of Mrs. P. Brett Brown; Valerie Burke Elbrick, daughter of Ambassador and Mrs. C. Burke

Elbrick; Sheila Ladd Farr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Farr; and Jennifer Fitch, daughter of Brig. Gen. Burdette Fitch of Mrs. S. Fontaine Brown.

Others were Diana Hardin, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. B. Lauriston Haran Jr.; Ann Kauffmann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey W. Kauffmann; Charlotte Kidder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Randolph A. Kidder; Florence Marshall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Marshall III; Susan McCammon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. McCammon III; Cynthia R. McCune, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William S. McCune; and Leith McLean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gale McLean.

Then there were Angela Mead, daughter of Mrs. Frank R. Mead Jr.; Linda Merrill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick T. Merrill; Patience Sanger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Sanger; Janet Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Spencer; Melza Van Roijen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Van Roijen; Nerissa T. vom Baur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis T. vom Baur; Kathleen Von Schrader, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Atreus T. Von Schrader Jr.; Evelyn Watts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip H. Watts; Nancy Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Wilson; and Marian J. Wright, daughter

of Adm. and Mrs. Jerauld Wright.

Mrs. Mesta's Treat

Mrs. George Mesta, former United States Minister to Luxembourg, entertained about 20 of the younger set at a luncheon Sunday at the Sulgrave Club honoring Marta Miller, debutante daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Miller.

Marta, who was the first deb to be presented during the "little season" last June, wore a brown and black checked wool suit and carried a black fox muff. A student at Wellesley College, she will make another bow at a dinner dance to be given by her parents Thursday evening, Dec. 24.

Twin Debs Sparkle

The highlights of their short blonde hair, set off by huge yellow orchid corsages on their identical black suits, twins Josephine and Mary Shepard sparkled at a luncheon given in their honor yesterday by Mrs. Emory Arlington Wheeler and her daughter, Helen Gatley Wheeler.

Ten of this season's debutantes were guests for the luncheon at the Army-Navy Town Club.

The petite daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Donald D'Arcy Shepard were presented to Washington society at a dance given for them in June at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

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